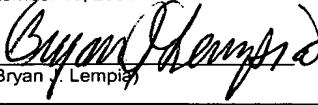


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Dated: September 15, 2004

Signature: 
(Bryan J. Lempia)

Docket No.: 29756/37996D
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Robert W. Lauer et al.

Application No.: 10/810,987

Filed: March 26, 2004

Art Unit: 3728

For: Modular Product Dispenser Unit

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits as far as is known to the undersigned (37 CFR 1.97(b)(3)).

A copy of each of the non-U.S. references listed below is attached:

For. Doc No.	Ctry	Patentee/Applicant	Publication Date
91 07 876.8	DE		November 14, 1991
2 741 608	FR		May 30, 1997

These references were cited in a related case, now issued as Design Patent No. D495,845, to which the examiner's attention is drawn. An English language abstract of French document 2 741 608 is enclosed, which explains the relevance of the document, as best currently understood. No English language equivalent or abstract of German document DE 9 107 876 is available. As best currently understood, this document discloses a four-sided upright refuse container with an outer cover and a lid with side openings for receiving refuse.

The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 13-2855, under Order No. 29756/37996D. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: September 15, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Bryan J. Lempia

Registration No.: 39,746
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233 S. Wacker Drive, Suite 6300
Sears Tower
Chicago, Illinois 60606-6357
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Attorney for Applicant



PTO/SB/08a/b (08-03)

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Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO				Complete if Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(Use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Application Number	10/810,987
Sheet	1	of	2	Filing Date	March 26, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Robert W. Lauer
				Art Unit	3728
				Examiner Name	Not Yet Assigned
				Attorney Docket Number	29756/37996D

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US-Des. 373,874	09/1996	Zackson et al.	
		US-Des. 374,528	10/1996	Zackson et al.	
		US-Des. 404,865	01/1999	Zackson	
		US-Des. 456,579	04/2002	Slear et al.	
		US-Des. 458,724	06/2002	Delmerico	
		US-Des. 484,290	12/2003	Ragot	
		US-Des. 487,539	03/2004	Moroney	
		US-2,145,879	02-07-1939	Jewett	
		US-3,847,457	11-12-1974	Kleppin	
		US-3,803,738	04-16-1974	Weiss	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		DE-91 07 876.8	11-14-1991		
		FR-2 741 608	05-30-1997		

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.			T ²

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PTO/SB/92 (08-03)

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Application No. (if known): 10/810,987

Attorney Docket No.: 29756/37996D

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